



MAKING IDAHO ROADS SAFE

January 2014

# Driver Ed News

## **Driving Just Became 23x Safer Lifesaver App**

With the steady rise in distracted driving related crashes, our society of technology-obsessed teens is in need of a prevention solution. This is where the LifeSaver mobile application comes in. LifeSaver was created by Ted Chen and Mike Demele, two fathers of 16-year-old boys who suffer the same anxieties any parent might have when their teen begins driving. Using some of the most advanced technology to date, Chen and Demele developed this application that provides the total package for breaking this bad habit. Once installed, LifeSaver runs in the background, automatically locking a phone when the car starts driving, and then unlocking the phone when the car comes to a stop.

The most unique part of this app, and probably the most appealing feature to teens, is the rewards program. When safe driving occurs (i.e., phones stay locked by the app), teens can earn rewards in the form of e-cards from places such as iTunes or Amazon. We look at it as a win-win situation for all. Parents can help prevent their teen's distracted driving behavior, teens feel rewarded for their safe driving practices, and most importantly, our roads become 23 times safer.

## **TEENS INVITED TO FIGHT IMPAIRED DRIVING THROUGH 5th ANNUAL "DRIVE2LIFE" PSA CONTEST**

The National Road Safety Foundation and Scholastic, the global children's publishing, education and media company, are looking for ideas from young people to help educate and convince their peers about the risks of the dangers of impaired driving and how to avoid being in a car driven by an impaired driver. Entries are now open for the 5th annual Drive2Life PSA Contest. The winner will receive a \$1,000 prize and an all-expenses paid trip to New York to work with an Emmy Award-winning TV director to turn his or her idea into a public service message that will be broadcast nationwide next May during Global Youth Traffic Safety Month.

## **Safe Driver Program Helps Parents Keep Tabs on Teens**

Having a teenager ready to drive is a scary proposition for any parent, but a new program is offering nervous parents a chance to monitor what their teenagers are doing behind the wheel. Teens are getting their first taste of freedom behind the wheel, but not without the freedom of being recorded. Most parents' insurance companies offers the family a program that mounts a camera on the windshield and keeps a record when making a driving mistake. It's almost like we're in the car with them all the time. They know they're not going to be recorded as long as they don't do anything wrong.

# Flashing Yellow Lights

Flashing Yellow Arrow traffic signals are becoming commonplace throughout Idaho as a way of managing traffic more efficiently and safely at intersections.

The flashing yellow signal is more efficient and it maximizes the green time allocated to through traffic and reduces frustration for drivers waiting to turn.

The new signal has four phases:

- ♦ Green arrow represents a protected turn, enabling motorists to turn left without interference.
- ♦ A flashing yellow arrow means drivers should proceed with caution and must yield to oncoming traffic and pedestrians.
- ♦ A solid yellow arrow warns the light is about to change red.
- ♦ Solid red arrows require motorists to stop, as they would at a solid red ball.

Flashing yellow lights save fuel and time spent at an intersection.



## Driver Education Conference in Boise May 2-3, 2014

Instructors will be provided with important tools they can use to positively promote traffic safety. Learn techniques and methods for teaching and assessing habit formation of student's performance. Participants will exchange ideas and discuss current student centered activities in driver education. Develop lines of communication to increase parental involvement in their teen's driver education. Strengthen your classroom activities and delivery through teen impact driver program and technology in your classroom.

Dynamic speakers will address the latest national trends in traffic safety to help increase your effectiveness and understanding of the issues surrounding driver education. Together we will save lives and reduce serious injuries within your own community.

To register: <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/8613486169/rss>

More information : [http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/driver\\_edu/](http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/driver_edu/)



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